H TALES CALCULATED TO DRIVE YOU WE'RE LOOKING FOR A MONSTER,
MA'M! HAS
ONE BEEN
BY HERE LATELY?



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THE E.C. FAN-ADDICT CLUB ROOM 706 225 LAFAYETTE STREET NEW YORK 12, N.Y.

SO, ALL RIGHT! SO HERE'S MY TWO BITS. SO MAKE ME A MEMBER, ALREADY, AND SEND ME THE THINGS AND STUFF LIKE WHAT THE KID UP THERE GOT... SO!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_\_ ZONE NO. \_\_\_\_
STATE \_\_\_\_\_

Mad. Dec. 1953-Jan. 1954—Vol. I. No. 8. Published B)-Monthly by Educational Comics, Inc., at 225 Lafayette St., New York 12, N. Y. William M. Gaines, Managing Editor, Harvey Kurtzman, Editor, Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. One year subscription in the U. S. 66e plus 15e for packing and mailing—total 75e. Elsewhere \$1.00. Entire contents copyrighted 1953 by Educational Comics. Inc. Unsolicited manuscripts will not be returned unless accompanied by stamped return envelope. No similarity between any of the characters, names or persons appearing in this magazine with any of those living or dead is intebded, and any such similarity is purely coincidental. Printed in U.S.A.

















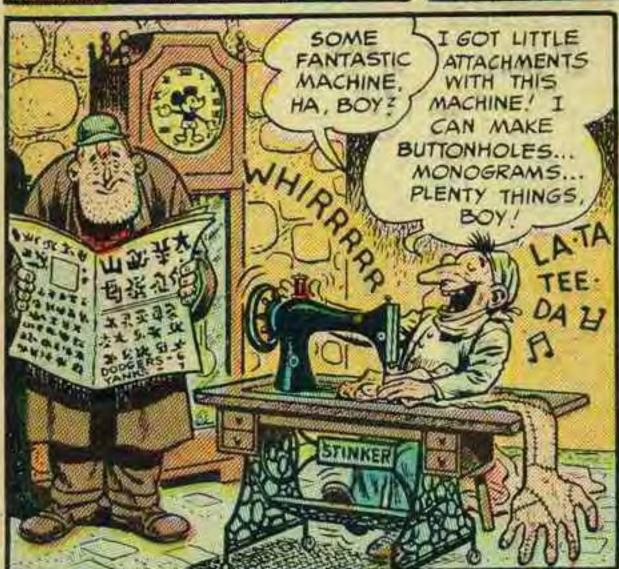


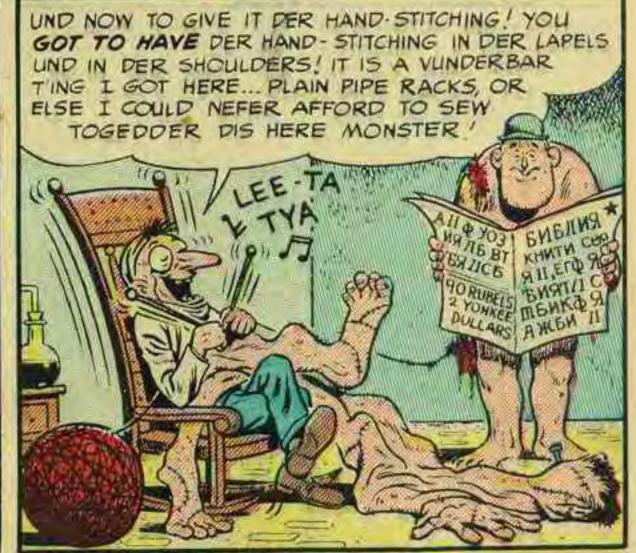




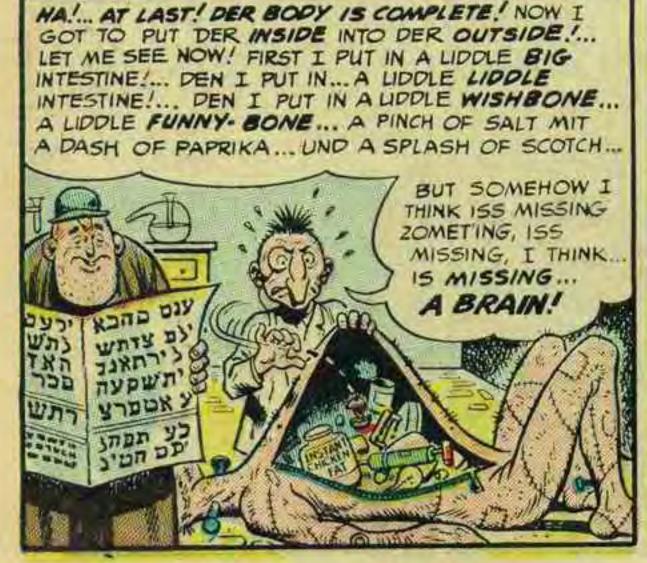








ACH DU LIEBER! HOW CAN I COMPLETE MY

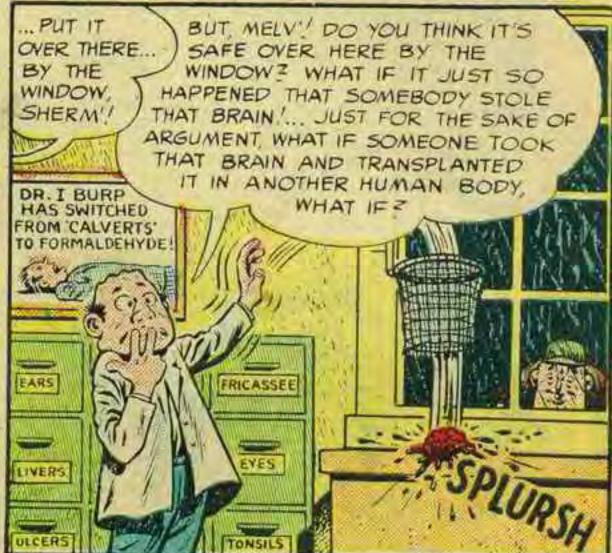




















UND NOW

WE START





STAND BACK







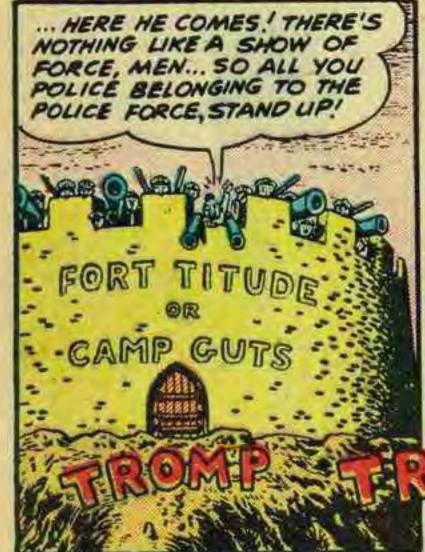
















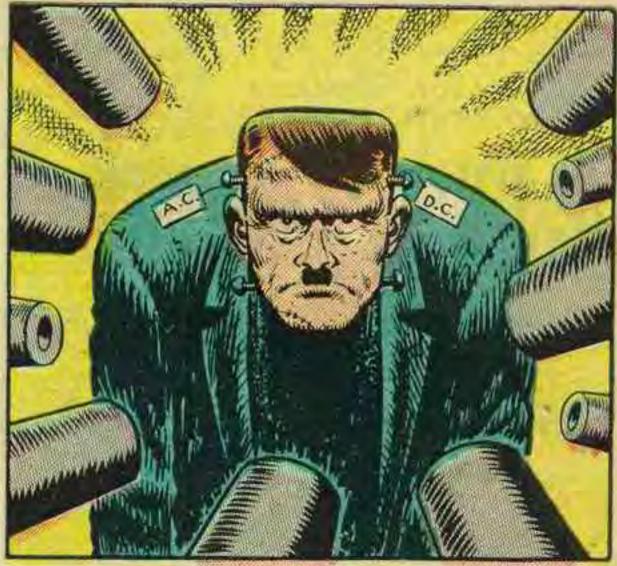






















WESTERN DEPT. THE SCENE OPENS UP TO THE SOUND OF TWO THUNDERING SIX-GUNS... TO THE SOUND OF GOLDEN BULLETS TEARING THROUGH THE AIR... TO THE SOUND OF THE WILLIAM TELL OVERTURE IN THE BACK. GROUND! OUT OF THE PAST COME THE HOOFBEATS OF THE GREAT HORSE GOLDEN! THE...

RIDES AGAIN:

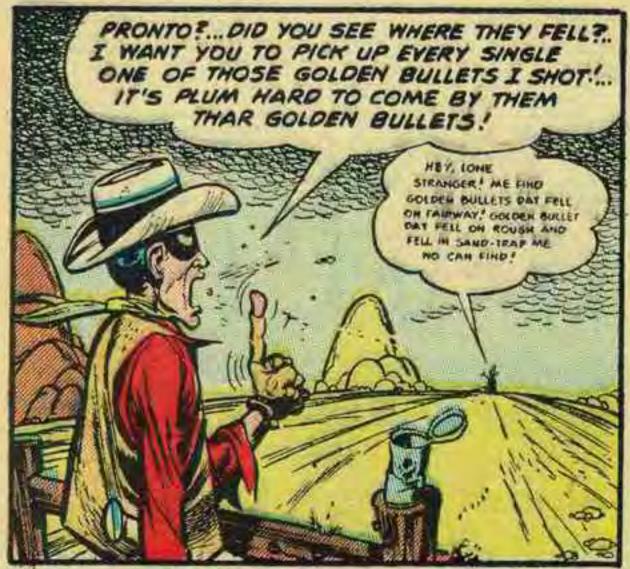
RIDES AGAIN:

KERCHOW!

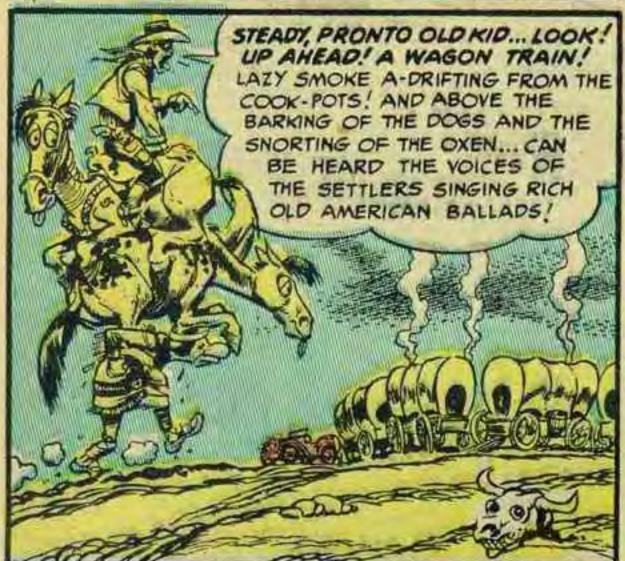
































(CHOMP! GULP!) ... YOU SEE (CHOMP)
... THE REASON PRONTO AND I
(GLUNK) HAVE JOINED THIS WAGON
TRAIN IS FOR NO OTHER MOTIVE
(PASS THE KETCHUP) THEN TO
PROTECT THE WAGON TRAIN
(SLOP) AS IT MOVED (P-TEW)
LIKE A ROW OF GHOSTLY
SAILBOATS ACROSS THE (GIT
YOUR COTTON PICKIN' HANDS OFF
THAT DRUMSTICK) PRAIRIE!

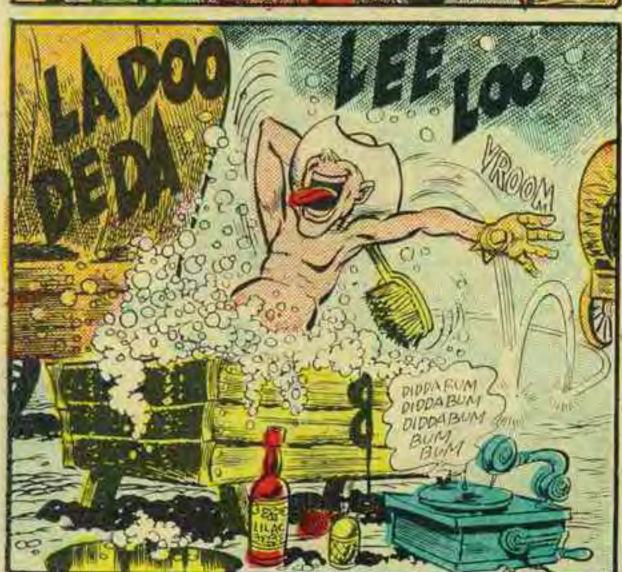


WE HAD NO OTHER MOTIVE IN MIND (SLURP) WHEN WE JOINED THIS HERE FURSHLUGGINER WAGON TRAIN (BADABURP)!... AND NOW SUH... WE'VE HAD OUR FILL!...WE'RE FEELIN' OUR 'CHEERIOS'! BESIDES... WE'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES THAT MUST EAT...THE WOMEN AND CHILLUN MUST BE WELL FED TOO!









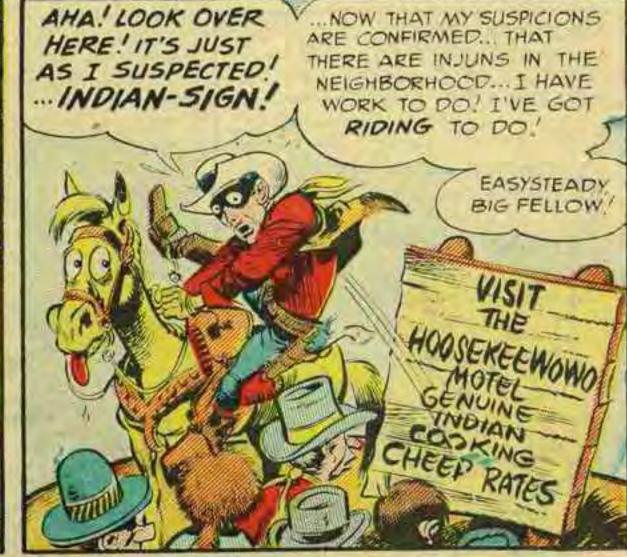














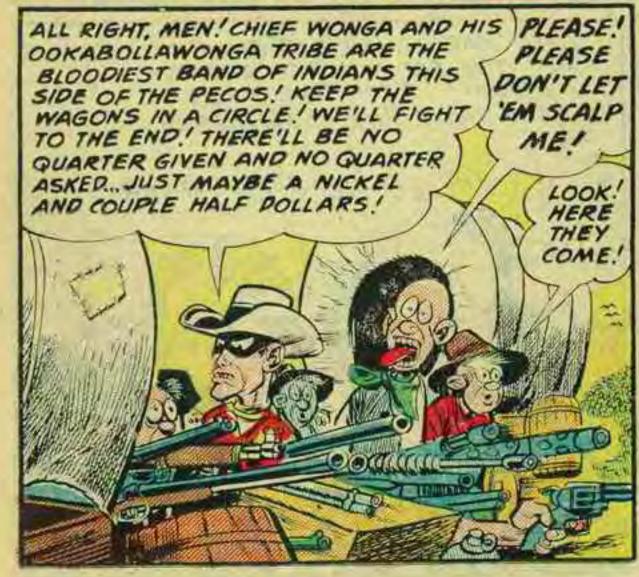
I CAN'T BELIEVE
IT! THE FIERY
HORSE WITH THE
SPEED OF LIGHT,
THE CLOUD OF
DUST AND THE
HEARTY 'HIYO
GOLDEN!..THE
LONE STRANGER
IS DISAPPEARING
OVER THE
HORIZON!...
DESERTING US!

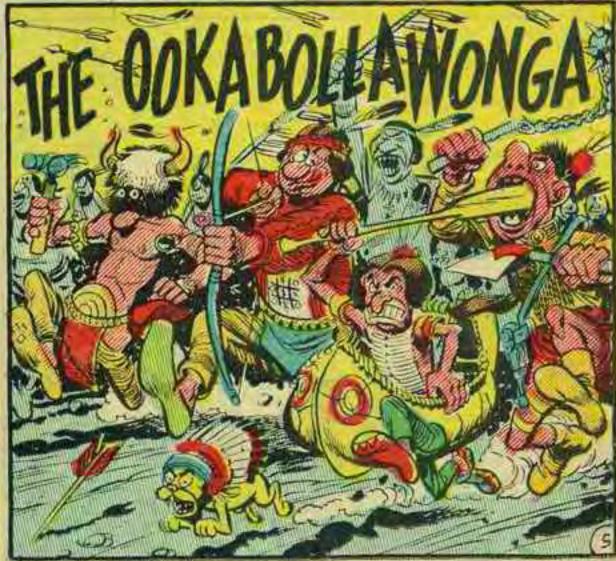
WITH THE SPEED
OF LIGHT, THE
CLOUD OF
DUST AND THE
HEARTY 'HIYO
GOLDEN!.. THE
LONE STRANGER
IS COMING
BACK FROM
OVER THE
HORIZON! HE'S
STAYING WITH
US!

FALSE! THE

FIERY HORSE





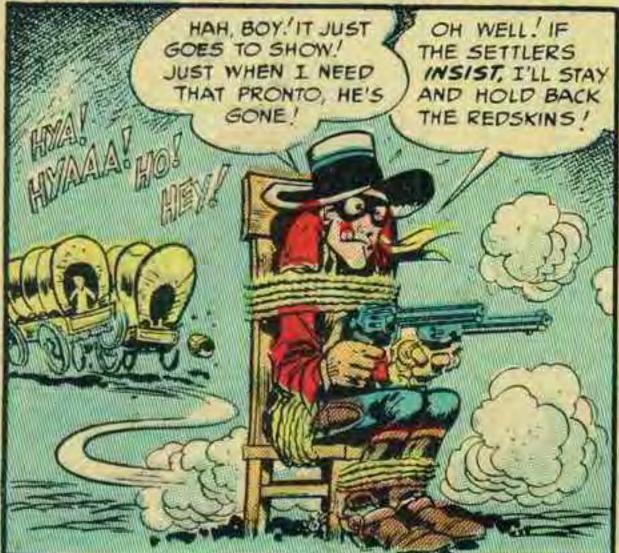




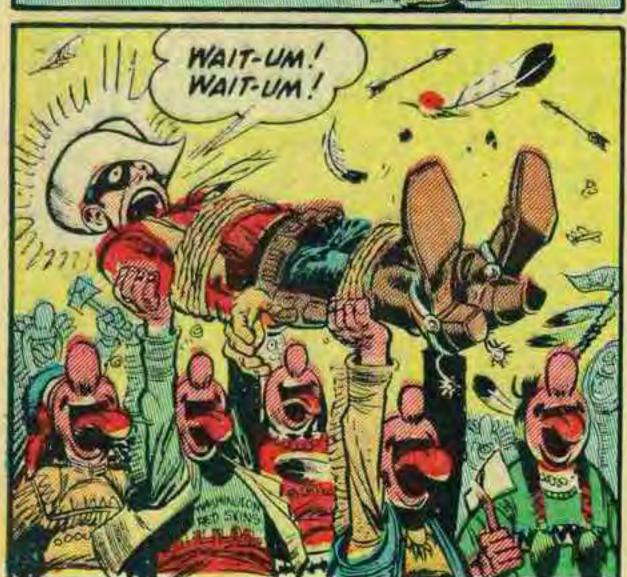
LISTEN, YOU SETTLERS! I HAVE A PLAN! HITCH UP THE WAGONS! SADDLE THE HORSES! BATTEN THE HATCHES! WHILE THE WAGON TRAIN MAKES A RUN FOR IT... ONE MAN'S GOT TO STAY BEHIND AND HOLD OFF THE INDIANS!...THAT MAN'LL PROBABLY BE KILLED OR CAPTURED AND PUT TO HORRIBLE DEATH BY THE MYSTERIOUS CHIEF WONGA...



I CANNOT LET ANY OF YOU SETTLERS BE SACRIFICED! ... 60
THEN!... PLEASE!... NO GOODBYES!
... JUST GO AND DON'T LOOK
BACK!... WE BOTH REALIZE THAT
THERE IS ONLY ONE MAN FOR
THIS JOB ...
PRONTO!
HO,
PRONTO!
I GOT A
JOB FOR
YOU!















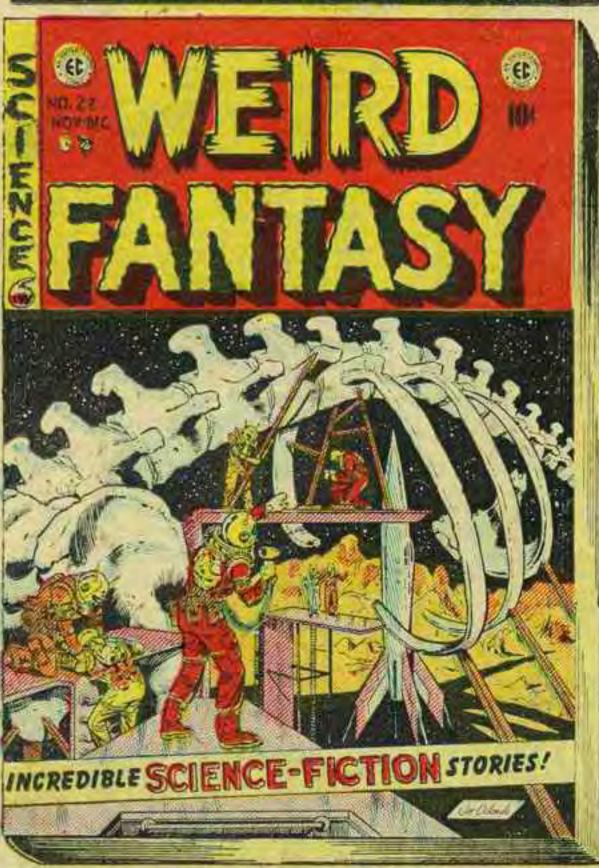


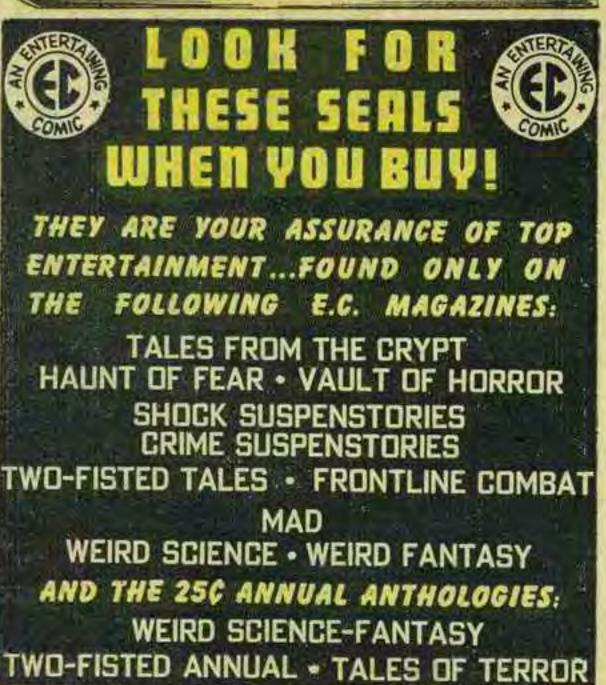






WE AT E.C. ARE PROUDEST OF OUR SCIENCE - FICTION MAGAZINES! LOOK FOR





CLOAK AND DAGGER DEPT.: And now the SECOND chapter in the fantastic adventures of SECRET UNDER-MANHOLE-COVER AGENT FIVE FINGERS JONES!

As you no doubt recall, in our last chapter, Jones' chief in Washington gave Jones the incredible news that the Russians were manufacturing ARTIFICIAL DIRT. This gave Jones grounds to believe that a filthy plot was undertoot. So on to CHAPTER II of ...

# OPERATION :: UNDER-THE-GROUND

... The chief continues: "Can you see what this development can do to our country, man?! Why, this could render the American sod completely useless! And think of all those poor Russian earth-worms crawling through PHONEY dirt!! (sniff-sniff) HORRIBLE! Now here's your assignment, Agent Jones (By the way, from now on you'll have to go under the code name of SHOVEL.) Your mission, Shovel, is to dig up this dirt plot. It's a dangerous job, Shovel, but we feel you're the best qualified man for the job seeing that you've been in the UNDERGROUND so long. You'll be picked up by submarine just off the coast under cover of darkness this afternoon at one sharp! The sub will take you behind the Iron Curtain. Got that, SHOVEL!?"

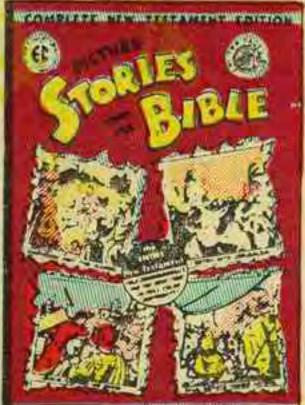
"I'll be there, chief!"

The next scene is the dock under cover of darkness. A submarine chugs up just as Jones arrives carrying a lantern, and an open umbrella, and a bandana containing all his personal belongings tied to the end of a stick over his shoulder. The sub itself is a battered old wreck with a figure-head on the prow. It is all patched up with band-aids, and some sailors are plugging up holes with their fingers.

Jones asks the sub's skipper if the sub leaks, saying that the government can't afford security leaks. They enter the sub whose hatches are battened down. The engine is a rubber band (like an airplane model). The sub gets under way beneath the waves. An airplane flies past leisurely. Finally the submarine reaches the Iron Curtain, and some of the crew have to get out to use some bracesand-bits to drill through the curtain They drill a hole and the sub passes through with ease.

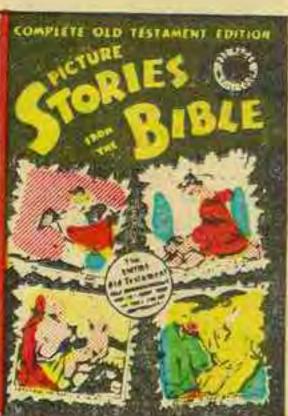
Some time later on a lonely street, a sewer grating is lifted and through it protrudes a submarine periscope with a yellow bloodshot eyeball framed in the glass, as that crazy mixed up Shovel digs Moscow.

... Well! The plot sickens! We've reached the end of the page, and so we moscow. If you want to find out what happens next in the adventures of Five Finger Jones, you'll have to buy another copy of MAD! (Boy, have WE got YOU sewed up!)



# 144 BIG PAGES IN

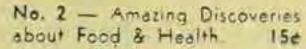
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# MAD MUMBLINGS



Dear Editors,

... If you ask me, MAD is a disgusting, dirty, nocount comic and shouldn't be on the stands!! But it's just what we want. Keep up the great work.—John Hurt-Elgin, Oregon

fied reader of MAD. That is why I am writing. I think you should be boiled in oil or killed by the death of a thousand cuts. Melvin should sic his apes on you. Your printing presses should be reduced to rubble by one punch from Superduperman, and you should be pummelled with used D.C. comic books. Just in case you are tired of this, I am tired of seeing MAD as a bimonthly comic. How about a monthly MAD, please?—Ronald Ketterer, Reading, Pa.

never stop making mistakes, will you? I thought you might be a little more careful with Mad than you have been with other E.C. mags. But no! You start right in making mistakes in Mad too. In issue number six, you told the story of CASEY AT THE BAT. Since Casey was my third uncle, 627½ times removed, when you made the following atrocious error I was very shocked. With the count nothing and two, Casey removes his teeth and prepares himself for the next pitch. As it comes, a sneer of satisfaction crosses his face and he displays a full set of teeth. Would you kindly let me know where he got the second set of teeth? I am deeply distressed at your mistake.—Harry Mitchell Jr.—Mudville, U.S.A.

... Vat's dis? Mad only once every two months? How dare you! It's inhuman, cruel, and besides, it's not nice! What would Farouk think? Have mercy! Begin publishing that magazine once a month.—Bobby Perry—Auburn, Alabama

... I have read a few of your Mad comics, and in my opinion, I have never seen so silly a book in my life. It gives the child a mean mind and teaches him to hate other nations. I hate comic books for I am a Martian.—Aurtvo Servix—Canal 5, Cave 62

... My son, Gene Sultan, is Bat Boy for the N. Y. Giants, and just before he left for the Polo Grounds today, he begged me to read "Casey at the Bat" in your No. 6 issue of Mad. I told him not to annoy me, that I had other more important things to do. However, after he had gone, I thought I would humor him and read the story.

Well, I got such a kick out of it, and had to laugh out loud so many times, that I just felt I had to send you a short note complimenting you. The drawings are a brilliant satire on America's favorite sport. Believe me, I thoroughly enjoyed it!-Rose Sultan-

... It might interest you to know that my buddy signed over the title to his '40 Plymouth on the condition that I call off his debt of \$165.00 and get him an issue of Mad-Bill Wiesenbach-Pensacola, Fla.

... The greatest brains of this school convene and discuss Calculus, Philosophy and Mad. This comic book is the only one we deem intelligent enough for our reading.—Some students of the Atascadero Union High School: Grace Woodworth, Tony Wilson, Carol Wilson, Donnadine Uischner, Pat Willey, Gene Dell'Anno, D. Morgan, Barbara Fresbie, Lee Erickson

getting so far as the Mad Mumblings. There I was greatly disappointed to see that you had accepted a letter from some engineering students as fit to print. Here in Norfolk we are on the same campus as V.P.I., and I have therefore had experience with engineering students. So I say, and I speak with authority, that engineers do not have overracked brains, for they simply have no brains to be overracked!

I hope you will take this into consideration when you next receive a letter from one of the characters that live up to the name of your book...MAD!—Chucks Hancox—College of William and Mary, Virginia

... I bought a copy of Mad. I have to keep it locked in a safe, and when one of the boys wants to read it, we have to lock all the doors. We classified it "Top Secret." A couple more of those stories and we'll have the enemy licked.—Howard Griffith—U.S. Naval Air Base, Virginia

... I know your staff will not print this because they fear that if they do, some of their readers will be converted to the good way of life. The men who think up such stories must be possessed by the devil! I have glanced through your book. I was lucky to live just glancing through. Death to you fiends!—David Allessio—Pittsfield, Mass.

In closing, a reminder JOIN THE E.C. FAN-ADDICT CLUB! (See inside front cover for details.) Subscriptions...75c...six issues! Keep writing. We need the cancelled stamps! Address for mail or sub orders is:

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"YOU CAN

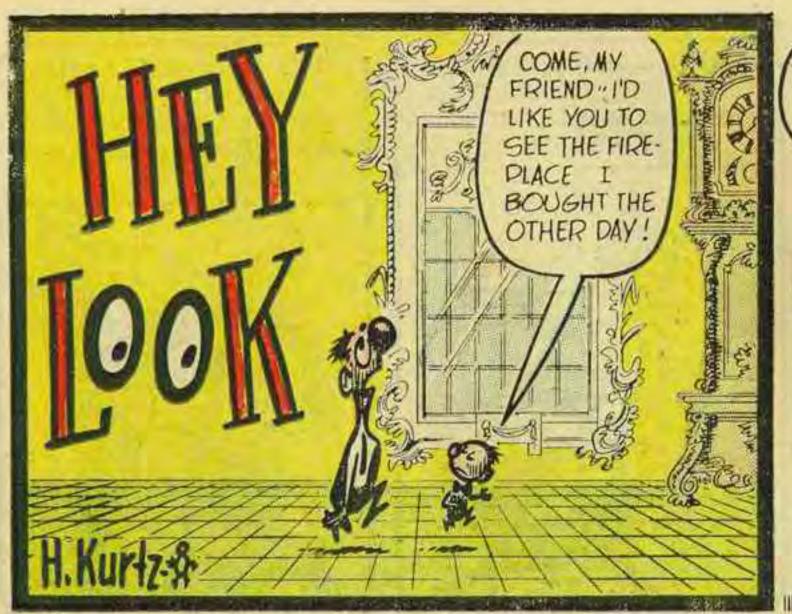






HEY! WEREN'T YOU GOING TO BUY A CHAIR TODAY?





NOTICE "HOW WHEN I PRESS THE BUTTON ON THE FIREPLACE "WE HAVE A RADIO AND TELE-VISION!



"AND NOTICE" HOW WHEN I PUSH THIS BUTTON ON THE FIREPLACE, WE HAVE A BAR AND A TELEPHONE!



"AND NOTICE "HOW WHEN I PUSH THIS BUTTON ON THE FIREPLACE, WE HAVE A COLLAPSING BED!



"AND NOTICE "HOW WHEN I PUSH THIS BUTTON ON THE FIREPLACE, WE HAVE A SHOWER WITH HOT AND COLD RUNNING WATER!





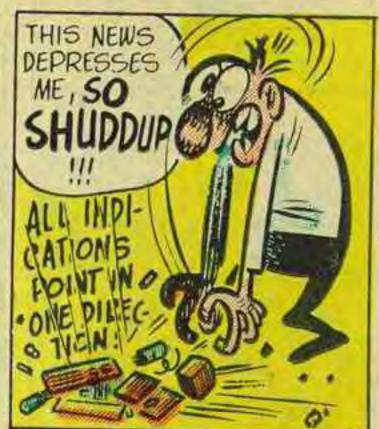
















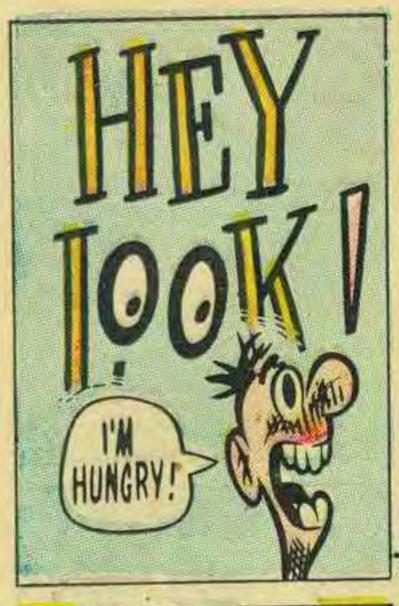










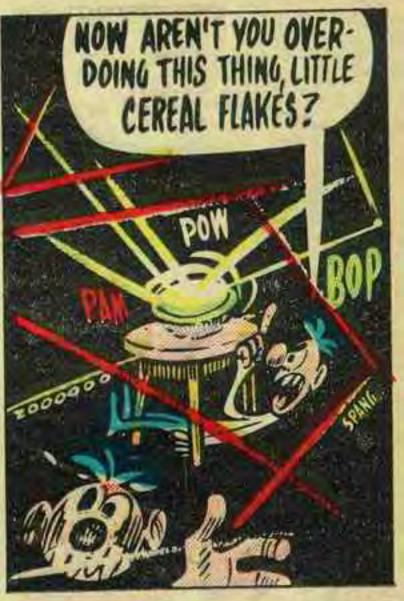














































































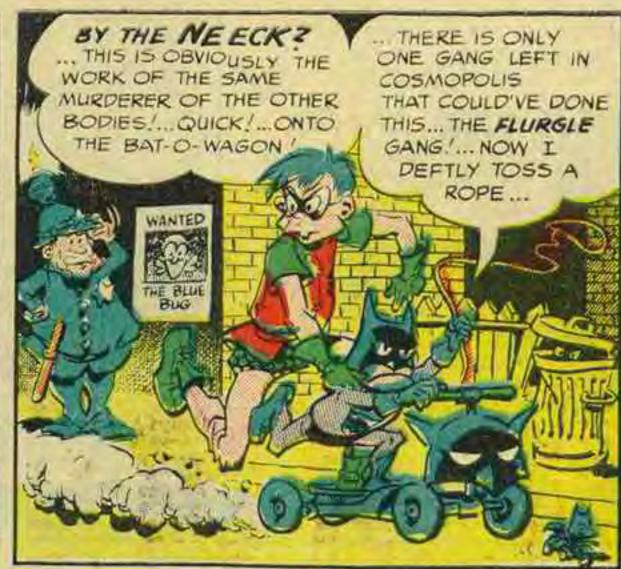


























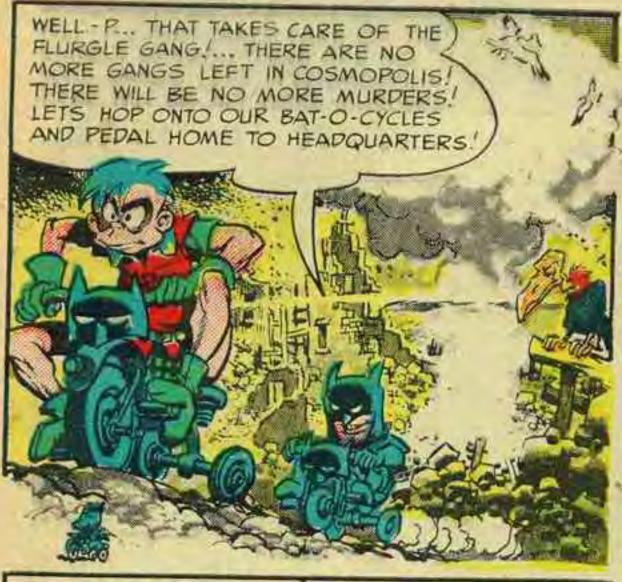
















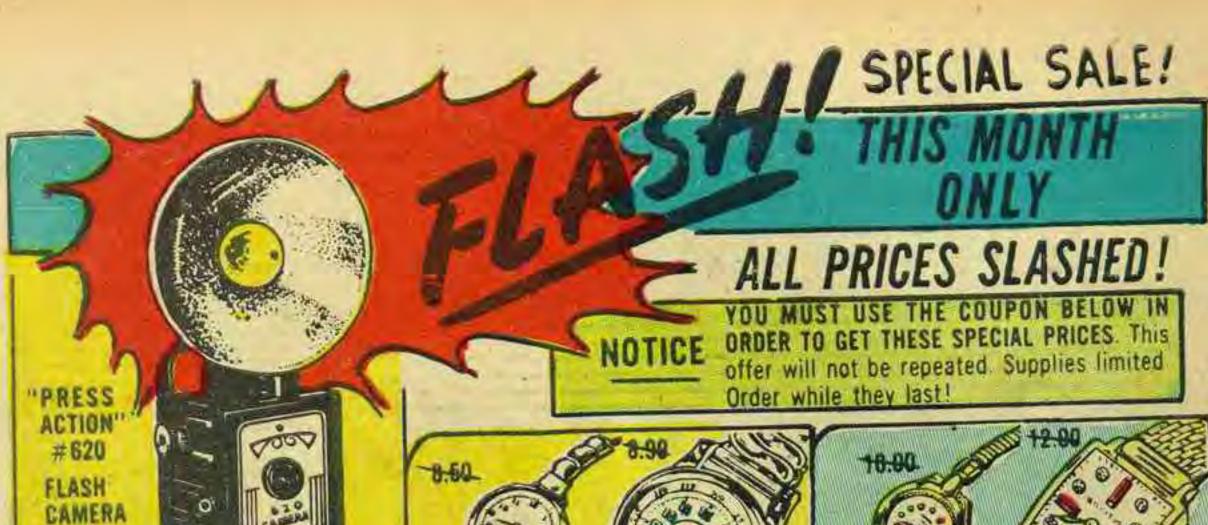


YES, RUBIN! THE VICTIM IS KILLED IN THE SAME WAY... TWO TINY HOLES ON THE VICTIM'S BODY...
TWO TINY HOLES IN THE VEIN OF THE VICTIM'S BIG TOE...









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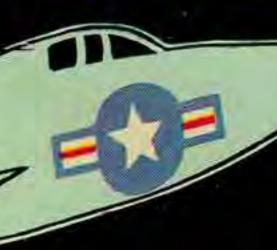
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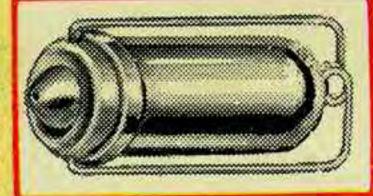
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